GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1789
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2016
Structural Safety of Buildings
Reddy Shri A.P. Jithender

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any specific steps have been taken by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) to ensure resistance and structural safety of buildings and structures located under its jurisdiction from the rising risks of potentially disastrous earthquakes;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the key findings of the Justice Lokeshwar Prasad Inquiry Commission report, along with the status of implementation of the findings in upcoming constructions in the NCT of Delhi;

(d) whether the MCD has conducted any survey of old buildings, if so, the details thereof along with the number of buildings declared unsafe and the action taken by the Corporation in this regard; and

(e) the estimated timeline for regulating earthquake-resistance redevelopment in the National Capital Territory of Delhi area facing high vulnerability to earthquakes?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a) & (b): The Delhi Municipal Corporations have informed that as per provisions of Building Bye-laws, 1983, the structural stability certificate for the proposed building signed by the owner, architect
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and structural engineer engaged by the owner is submitted by the owner at the time of sanction of building plan. Similarly, the structural stability certificate is also submitted at the time of issuance of completion-cum-occupancy certificate. Thus, the structural safety of building is relied upon the structural engineer engaged by the owner. In this regard, qualified private structural engineers have been empanelled. As regards structural safety of existing old buildings from seismic hazard, regulations/guidelines and subsequent strengthening / retrofitting has been proposed in the draft "Unified Building Bye-laws for Delhi-2015."

(c): The information is being collected from Delhi Government and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d): The East Delhi Municipal Corporation has informed that a visual survey to find out buildings prone to imminent danger is carried out by the Maintenance Deptt. of East DMC prior to monsoon every year. In case any building is found prone to imminent danger, the same is demolished by the Corporation.

The South and North Delhi Municipal Corporations have informed that as a precautionary measure they carry out pre-monsoon visual survey of
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all the buildings under their jurisdiction. In case any building is found dangerous, immediate action as per provisions of Delhi Municipal Corporation Act, 1957 is initiated against the owner of the building.

(e): This is an on-going process and no timeline can be indicated.

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